

ROCKLAND FINANCE COMMITTEE
ROCKLAND TOWN HALL
ROCKLAND, MA 02370

August 12, 2009

In attendance at the August 12, 2009 Finance Committee meeting were Ian Curran, Dolores Baronas, Rachel Gear, Joe Gambon, Bob MacDonald, Caryn Stevens, Rich Penney, Bill Allen, John Ellard and Paula Ferguson.

The meeting was brought to order at 6:30 by Chairman John Ellard.

A motion was made by Joe Gambon and seconded by Bill Allen to accept the minutes from the July 15, 2009 meeting. A unanimous vote was taken.

Under correspondence, a memo from Eric Hart was read concerning the Overlay Account. A question has been raised as to whether it is \$330,000 or \$395,000. It was discussed between Mr. Minahan and Mr. Gibbons of the amount being \$330,000 but at the Board of Assessors's meeting it was voted to be \$395,000 and no changes had been made as of July 28, 2009. Eric will try to meet with the Board of Assessors and Mr. Minahan to clarify this issue. Paula will check on the status of said meeting.

The department liaison list was established and is attached. It will be sent to all department heads.

Paula brought up a discussion on the change in policy regarding departments providing back if possible when requests are made for the Reserve Fund. Back up shall include a copy of the bill that needs to be paid and the year to date budget showing the lack of funds for said bill within that department's budget. Also interdepartmental transfer requests will require the same protocol, a copy of the bill, the total of the year to date budget showing lack of funding for the bill and also the year to date budget of the department who will be transferring the money to the department making the request in order to show that they have additional funds to transfer. On all requests, four copies will be provided of the transfer request form with original signatures from the departments and the Board of Selectmen so that copies can be given to the requesting department, the department money is being transferred from, the Town Accountant's office and the Finance Committee. A motion was made by Bill Allen and seconded by Rachel Gear. A unanimous vote was taken.

It was discussed to have a top 50 vendor list in order to get the best deals on supplies for the town. A question was raised as to whether we negotiate our own deals or if we could negotiate through the state. This will be discussed again at our next meeting.

Paula brought up an idea of having an informational meeting at our next meeting about the responsibilities and duties of the Finance Committee seeing that there are so many new members. Eric Hart has graciously agreed to help with this and also John Ellard.

Our next meeting is set for September 9, 2009 beginning at 6:30 in the Lower Conference Room of the Town Hall.

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Joe Gambon made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Bill Allen. A unanimous vote was taken. The meeting adjourned at 7:45.

The current balance of the Reserve Fund is \$35,000.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Ferguson
Secretary
Rockland Finance Committee